

March 3, 2016

David Albright
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Mr. Michael Montgomery
United States Environmental Protection Agency
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Re: Proposed Arroyo Grande Oil Field Aquifer Exemption: Request for Denial

Dear Mr. Albright,

On February 8, 2016 the California Department of Conservation, Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources ("DOGGR") recommended an aquifer exemption for Class II injection wells in the Arroyo Grande oil field ("AGOF"), operated by Freeport McMoRan ("FMOG"). Under the Safe Drinking Water Act ("SDWA"), the EPA must approve this Exemption before it is valid.

I am writing you and asking that you deny this application as it is not complete and does not answer many questions neighbors and concerned citizens have regarding our water. I believe the application fails to show that this area they are asking to exempt falls within the criteria of an aquifer that can be exempted. This is a complex geologic zone and more work must be done before this is proven to be safe for the USDW's in the surrounding area. There are at least 100 water supply wells within a mile of this oil field, but the application doesn't show exact map locations or sampling of these wells. I have attached my letter that was sent to the Division during the first public comment

period. I am very concerned as my water well is one of the closest to the new proposed boundary. How is it possible that no testing or monitoring has been done on surrounding USDW's?

I live on a property about a half mile from the Arroyo Grande Oil Field and in 1981 we had a surface expression on our property from a Steam Injection well at the field. How can you say this area is isolated and not hydraulically connected? I have questions that warrant answers and do request you will set aside time for public comment or a meeting with area residents regarding this application. It is our human right to have water and to have neighbor's activities potentially contaminate an otherwise clean aquifer is a crime. I have become frustrated that the Division has not answered these questions and now I rely on the EPA to protect our most precious resource on this planet.

Thank you and I look forward to your response to my letter,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

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CC:

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